

Amendment to the Specification:

Referring to Amendment A of December 31, 2008, please delete the paragraph added to page 9, after the last paragraph ending on line 23, in its entirety as follows:

~~The invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiments. Modifications and alterations may occur to others upon reading and understanding the preceding detailed description. It is intended that the invention be construed as including all such modifications and alterations insofar as they come within the scope of the appended claims or the equivalents thereof.~~